

**Proposed Substitute
Bill No. 234**

LCO No. 3204

AN ACT CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF A FIREARMS TRAINING FACILITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Firearms training facility" means an indoor or outdoor training
4 facility designed and designated for training with firearms;

5 (2) "Public land" means a state park, state forest or municipal park
6 or any other publicly owned land that is open to the public for active
7 or passive recreation; and

8 (3) "State agency" has the same meaning as provided in section 1-79
9 of the general statutes.

10 (b) On and after the effective date of this section, no state agency
11 shall construct a firearms training facility unless such state agency (1)
12 purchased or leased the property on which such firearms training
13 facility will be located prior to said date and such property is not
14 public land, (2) constructs such firearms training facility on property
15 owned or leased and used by the federal or state government as a
16 firearms training facility prior to said date, or (3) purchases or leases
17 property on which such firearms training facility will be located

18 pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of this act.

19 (c) On and after the effective date of this section, any state agency
20 that constructs a firearms training facility or expands a firearms
21 training facility shall design such firearms training facility to
22 incorporate noise reducing methods, including the installation of
23 baffles in such a manner to reduce or redirect sound waves. The
24 Department of Administrative Services, in consultation with the
25 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, may adopt
26 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
27 implement the provisions of this subsection. Such regulations may
28 include, but need not be limited to, the size, location, construction and
29 type of baffles in a firearms training facility.

30 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
31 subsection, "firearms training facility" means an indoor or outdoor
32 training facility designed and designated for training with firearms,
33 and "sponsoring agency" means the state department, institution or
34 agency responsible for the preparation of an environmental impact
35 evaluation pursuant to subsection (c) of section 22a-1b of the general
36 statutes.

37 (b) After the Office of Policy and Management makes a written
38 determination that an environmental impact evaluation with respect to
39 a proposed construction, expansion or development of a firearms
40 training facility satisfies the requirements of part 1 of chapter 439 of
41 the general statutes, the sponsoring agency shall not make its final
42 decision on such proposed construction, expansion or development
43 without the approval by referendum of the municipality within whose
44 territorial limits the firearms training facility is located or is to be
45 located.

46 Sec. 3. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Department of Emergency
47 Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the Department of
48 Administrative Services, shall conduct a study to find a suitable
49 replacement for the firearms training facility located in Simsbury in
50 order to meet the firearms training needs of the Department of

51 Emergency Services and Public Protection. The study shall include, but
52 need not be limited to, the following: (1) A description of the needs of a
53 firearms training facility; (2) an evaluation of each firearms training
54 facility owned by the state or available for use by the department
55 according to the (A) types of ranges such as indoor or outdoor, small
56 arms, rifle or shotgun, (B) capacity of each range in terms of the
57 number of persons that can use the range at the same time, (C) number
58 of hours the firearms training facility can be operated per day and on
59 weekends without creating a neighborhood nuisance, (D) on-site
60 classroom facilities, (E) potential for expansion to meet the needs of the
61 department, and (F) environmental issues at the site; (3) the feasibility
62 and desirability of using an existing firearms training facility or a
63 combination of existing firearms training facilities to meet the firearms
64 training needs of the department; and (4) a tentative construction
65 budget and timetable for locating the department's firearms training
66 facility at one or more existing firearms training facilities.

67 (b) Not later than January 1, 2017, the department shall submit a
68 report on the results of such study, in accordance with the provisions
69 of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee
70 of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to
71 public safety and security.

72 (c) The department shall not proceed with the preparation of any
73 environmental impact evaluation contemplated by subsection (c) of
74 section 22a-1b of the general statutes pertaining to a firearms training
75 facility until the report described in subsection (b) of this section is
76 submitted.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>from passage</i>	New section